

FOREIGN RELATIONS
APPROPRIATIONS, EX OFFICIO
JOINT ECONOMIC
DEMOCRATIC POLICY
DEMOCRATIC STEERING

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

MISSOURI
STANLEY R. FIFE
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

September 8, 1969

Honorable Melvin R. Laird
The Secretary of Defense
Washington, D.C. 20301

Dear Mr. Secretary:

As mentioned in my letter of September 2, 1969, the Subcommittee on United States Security Agreements and Commitments Abroad of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations plans to hold a series of hearings in executive session on our relations with several countries in the Far East. The second phase of said hearings are planned for the week beginning October 13; and will focus on Laos.

The witnesses the Subcommittee would request be available in Washington, along with any others you might think appropriate, so as to testify on specific matters, are:

Colonel Robert L. F. Tyrrell, USAF
U. S. Air Attache
Vientiane, Laos

Colonel Peter Russell
Deputy Chief, JUSMAG
Bangkok, Thailand

Major Robert W. Thomas
Former Army Attache Representative in
Luang Prabang, Laos

As in the case of the Philippines, we would mention some of the subjects we would expect the witnesses to develop in detail with respect to Laos. These include:

1. Written, stated and understood commitments to the Laos Government.
2. The threat to Laos.
3. United States financial and non-military support of the Royal Laos Government.

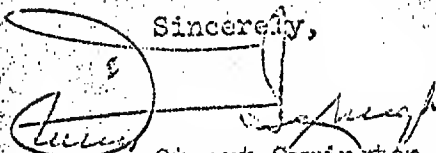
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4. United States military forces, facilities, operations and the war in Laos.
5. Central Intelligence Agency support of guerrillas in Laos.
6. United States personnel killed, wounded and missing in Laos.
7. United States military and economic assistance to Laos.

We would hope that the same procedures as were outlined in my letter to you of September 2 could be followed with respect to this second phase of the hearings.

Sincerely,



Stuart Symington
Chairman
Subcommittee on United States Security
Agreements and Commitments Abroad

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P.S. As was the case with the planned hearings re the Philippines, a comparable letter is being sent to the Secretary of State.